

week his office declared it has "worked well." Who could say otherwise with only five lawsuits from 4 million Texans over 2 years in managed care.

Governor Bush's insurance commissioner has declared it "a real success story," "one of the leading" consumer protection measures in the country. If the Republican leadership will get out of the way, we will do the same for all of America.

PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to the remarks of my colleague on the left from the State of Texas. And indeed he is making news today. Because, apparently, he is endorsing the candidacy of his governor, Governor Bush. And we certainly appreciate that act of bipartisanship. But in all sincerity and in all seriousness, Mr. Speaker, it is important that we do this as we defend patients' rights.

The key on this House floor and in the hospitals and clinics and homes of America is this: We must make sure that we have a true Patients' Bill of Rights instead of a lawyer's right to bill. And as we see this morning in one of our national publications, Mr. Speaker, sadly this is true.

I quote now, "Yet trial lawyer money talks loudest of all now to many Democrats." And indeed it is increasingly clear the Democrat Party, with no ideological link to the private economy, is now reduced to redistributing income through litigation.

We do not want a lawyer's right to bill. We want a patients' bill of rights.

ENFORCEABLE PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, we will have a chance as bipartisan in this House to really have a patients' bill of rights, yes, a patients' bill of rights that respects the right of patients to expect that the plan they have with their insurance company is indeed enforceable.

That is a fundamental right of consumers to believe that which they have purchased is enforceable. They also expect that they will be able to be treated for disease and illness that they may be suffering, which is covered under that. So the patients' bill of rights does include the right to sue. But it does not include the right that employers should be sued.

So I am urging my colleagues not to have that scare tactic, to make sure

that we have an opportunity to debate the right, the right for patients to be covered for those illnesses that they are insured, the right to enforce their plan and, yes, indeed if there is a failure or fraud, the right to sue finally.

The patients' bill of rights is an opportunity for us to say, yes, patients have a right to expect that their insurance company will follow through on their commitment.

REPUBLICANS ARE STOPPING RAID ON SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. ARMEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, Washington big spenders have raided Social Security for 30 years to pay for big government programs. Republicans are stopping that raid.

As a result, the President and the Democrats in Congress are desperately looking for new ways to pay for their big government programs. As usual, they think they found it in the wallets of the working Americans.

The Democrats' scream to increase tobacco taxes in order to pay for a fatter, more bloated government is nothing more than a money grab that will hurt low-income workers.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, as this chart shows, over 53 percent of the Democrats' tax increase will be paid by Americans earning less than \$30,000.

Mr. Speaker, I am here to assure the hard-working taxpayers of this country that this Republican Congress will not schedule a bill that raises their taxes and this Republican Congress will not schedule a bill that raids their Social Security. It is time to stop the raid on Social Security and time to stop the raid on the taxpayers' wallets.

Mr. Speaker, if the Democrats raise tobacco taxes, they will feed the most insidious addiction in this town, the addiction they have for our money.

UNCLE SAM IS PROPPING UP COMMUNISM IN CHINA

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, last week China celebrated 50 years of communist rule. They had parades with tanks, missiles, communism on display after all our efforts to defeat communism.

What is troubling, Mr. Speaker, is they were partying in China on our cash, a \$70-billion trade surplus. Unbelievable. The truth is, communism in China would be belly up today if it were not for our trade policy.

Beam me up, Uncle Sam is now propping up communism. I yield back Taiwan, Johnny Huang, Charlie Trie, and

all the Chinese spies running around our nuclear labs.

DAY 131 OF SOCIAL SECURITY LOCKBOX HELD HOSTAGE

(Mr. HERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, today is day 131 of the Social Security lockbox held hostage by President Clinton and the minority party in the Senate.

One hundred thirty-one days ago, this House, both Democrats and Republicans, voted overwhelmingly 416-12 to lock up Social Security dollars to protect them from being spent on unrelated programs.

Since the passage of the Social Security lockbox in the House, the Senate leadership is on record six times attempting to bring the Social Security lockbox for a vote on the Senate floor. And for six times the approval to even consider the Social Security lockbox was denied on a straight party-line vote.

Mr. Speaker, the House is committed to ending the 30-year raid on Social Security. I urge the Democrat minority in the Senate to allow for the same.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members to refrain during one-minute speeches from references to proceedings in the other body.

KIDDIE MAC

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as we enter the new millennium, the American family has taken a new shape. Our children are now reared not only by two working parents, sometimes by single parents, grandmothers, guardians.

Many Americans say that finding safe, affordable child care is one of their most important concerns. We have not been able to finance a sufficient number of needed child care centers. Parents who can afford to pay for modest child care, many spend more on yearly quality child care tuition than on public college tuition.

As one step in addressing this crisis, I have introduced bipartisan legislation with the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BAKER) called Kiddie Mac. Kiddie Mac is designed to build a partnership between the Federal Government and private lending institutions to finance safe and affordable child care.

Unless we act to pass Kiddie Mac, the new American family of the new millennium may collide head-on with the unmet needs for safe and affordable child care.